

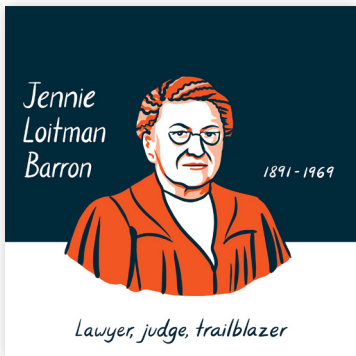
 **Smithsonian**
MUSEUM
on Main Street

MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET (MoMS) is a Smithsonian outreach program that engages small town audiences and brings revitalized attention to underserved rural communities. The Smithsonian

partners with state humanities councils to bring traveling exhibitions, educational resources and programming to small towns across America through their own local museums, historical societies and other cultural venues. Exhibitions are designed to engage communities and become a catalyst for conversation about life in small-town America. We want to start dialogue, build excitement, facilitate connections, and open doors to your community's history, culture, people, and sense of local pride.

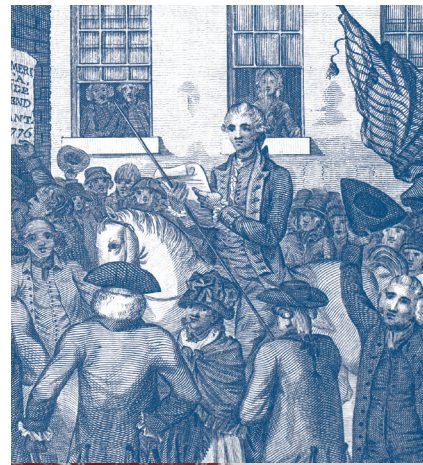


Mass Humanities creates opportunities for the people of Massachusetts to transform their lives and build a more equitable Commonwealth through the humanities.



MASS HUMANITIES is proud to partner with small towns to bring the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street program to Massachusetts. Our goal is to engage small town audiences and revitalize attention to rural communities. Individuals throughout Massachusetts' history have raised their voices, marched in protest, signed petitions and written powerful pieces to work for change in their communities. "Building Blocks of Democracy" is a digital exhibit created by Mass Humanities which highlights nine individuals who had a powerful effect on democratic rights in the Commonwealth.

Scan the QR code to learn more about these fascinating leaders!



**APRIL 17 -
MAY 31
2025**

Mohawk Trail Regional School
Buckland, MA

AN EXHIBIT BY THE
 **Smithsonian**
MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET INITIATIVE



EXHIBIT



EXHIBIT HOURS

**Mondays, Tuesdays,
Saturdays: 11am-4pm**
Thursdays: 3-8pm

Voices and Votes: Democracy in America explores the questions sparked by the great leap of faith taken by American revolutionaries when they waged a war of independence: Who has the right to vote? What are the freedoms and responsibilities of citizens? Whose voices will be heard? How do you participate as a citizen? The exhibit is a springboard for discussions about these very questions and how they are reflected in local stories.

SPONSORS



LOCAL PARTNERS



Center for New Americans
A Community-Based Education and Resource Center for
Immigrants and Refugees in Western Massachusetts



PROGRAMS

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL LIBRARY

24 Ashfield Road
Buckland (Shelburne Falls), MA 01370
www.mtrsd.org/Museum-on-Main-Street

APRIL 17

Opening Night Reception & Concert

All are welcome to join local legislators and Mass Humanities to celebrate the opening of the exhibit, followed by a concert of protest songs from the school band and chorus.

APRIL 26

Hilltown Draw Around

Respond creatively to "Voices and Votes" by attending the Hilltown Draw-Around in Shelburne Falls, where a community art-making prompt will focus on questions the exhibit explores.

MAY 1

"Becoming an American" panel discussion in partnership with the Center for New Americans.

An exploration of the joys and pitfalls of adjusting to life in the United States.

MAY 8

"The Most Fundamental Right? Why the Right to Vote Is So Contested in American Politics," in partnership with the Charlemont Forum

Jesse Rhodes, professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, will discuss the causes and consequences of our divided electorate. The event will be streamed on YouTube by Falls Cable TV and will include questions and comments from the audience.

MAY 15

Community Conversation, "Food for Thought: Creating Community in Our Rural Area"

This community conversation will bring together people who create community in different ways to share their views. Everyone is invited to join the Rev. Mick Comstock and Anne Gobi, the Governor's Director of Rural Affairs, in a conversation facilitated by Tinky Weisblat. The event will be accompanied by a sampling of vintage recipes from local election bake sales.

MAY 22

Trivia/Game Night in partnership with the League of Women Voters

An evening of fun, featuring games themed around Voices & Votes. Refreshments will be served.

MAY 29

Closing Night with Art & Music

All are welcome to say goodbye to the exhibit. The event will highlight student projects related to the exhibit and will include music and refreshments. Throughout the exhibit, the school will display work by students that reflects the theme of "Voices and Votes."